GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1227
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2001
IMPORT OF HONEY FROM CHINA
SANJAY PASWAN

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether sub-standard honey at cheaper rates in being imported from China as a result of which lakhs of poor families engaged in honey production are likely to be rendered jobless;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to check the import of honey from China ; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to promote export of high quality Indian honey?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a)to(c) : No honey was imported from China during the years 1997-98 and 1998-99. The total import of honey from China during the year 1999-2000 was worth only Rs.18,000/-. Again there was no import of honey from China during the period April-September, 2000. As can be seen, with the present level of imports there is no threat to domestic honey farmers from import from China. Further, import of honey attracts total customs duty of 44.04%. This should provide adequate protection to the domestic farmers.

Import of all edible goods is examined at the port to ensure its suitability for human consumption. Consignments not meeting the prescribed norms would be appropriately dealt with by the authorities through measures including, but not limited to, denial of entry at the port of disembarkment and/or reshipment.

The Government operates various schemes to promote exports, wherein the duties/taxes incurred on various inputs required for export production are exempted/reimbursed.